

## INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/SE 2004/001861

## A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC7: G06F 17/60

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

## B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

IPC7: G06F, H04L

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

SE,DK,FI,NO classes as above

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)

EPO-INTERNAL, WPI DATA, PAJ

## C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	WO 0198998 A1 (CATALINA MARKETING INT, INC), 27 December 2001 (27.12.2001), page 7, line 10 - page 9, line 29; page 12, line 24 - page 14, line 6, abstract  --	1-14
A	US 20030172037 A1 (JUNG, C ET AL), 11 Sept 2003 (11.09.2003), paragraphs [0009]-[0017]; [0027]-[0030], abstract  --	1-14
A	US 6223166 B1 (KAY, J B), 24 April 2001 (24.04.2001), column 2, line 16 - column 3, line 3, figure 1, abstract  -- -----	1-14

☐ Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.☒ See patent family annex.

## \* Special categories of cited documents:

"A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance

"E" earlier application or patent but published on or after the international filing date

"L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)

"O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means

"P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

"T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention

"X" document of particular relevance: the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone

"Y" document of particular relevance: the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art

"&amp;" document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

17 March 2005

Date of mailing of the international search report

21-03-2005

Name and mailing address of the ISA/

Swedish Patent Office

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**INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT**International application No.  
**PCT/SE 2004/001861****Box No. II Observations where certain claims were found unsearchable (Continuation of item 2 of first sheet)**

This international search report has not been established in respect of certain claims under Article 17(2)(a) for the following reasons:

1. ☐ Claims Nos.:  
because they relate to subject matter not required to be searched by this Authority, namely:
2. ☒ Claims Nos.: 1-14 (in part)  
because they relate to parts of the international application that do not comply with the prescribed requirements to such an extent that no meaningful international search can be carried out, specifically:  
  
See extra sheet.
3. ☐ Claims Nos.:  
because they are dependent claims and are not drafted in accordance with the second and third sentences of Rule 6.4(a).

**Box No. III Observations where unity of invention is lacking (Continuation of item 3 of first sheet)**

This International Searching Authority found multiple inventions in this international application, as follows:

1. ☐ As all required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this international search report covers all searchable claims.
2. ☐ As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying an additional fee, this Authority did not invite payment of any additional fee.
3. ☐ As only some of the required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this international search report covers only those claims for which fees were paid, specifically claims Nos.:
4. ☐ No required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant. Consequently, this international search report is restricted to the invention first mentioned in the claims; it is covered by claims Nos.:

**Remark on Protest**

- ☐ The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest.
- ☐ No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees.

## Box II.2.:

Claims 1-14 lack essential features (Art 6 PCT; Rule 6.3 PCT) to such an extent that a meaningful search over the whole claimed range is impossible (Art 17(2) PCT). Consequently, the search has been carried out for those parts of the application which appear to be clear, namely:

A method (and corresponding system/apparatus) for managing purchases in progress which are made by a number of individuals belonging to a liable organisation, such as employees making purchases in parallel on behalf of a company, the method comprising the steps of:

- connecting a managing server to a global interconnected network, such as the Internet, the managing server including storage means and issuing means;

- providing information to the storage means of the managing server about purchasing rules for individuals purchasing on behalf of their organisation which information is provided by a first client terminal connected to the network,

- generating a unique number by the issuing means, the unique number being issued and distributed to a second client terminal operated by a purchasing individual in dependence on the purchasing rules,

- in response to a purchase, providing information, including the unique number, via the Internet to the managing server relating to a purchase in progress, by means of the second terminal,

- examining by the managing server whether the provided information is in accordance with the purchasing rules, as a result of which a notification is sent to the second client terminal so as to validate the purchase.

The applicants attention is drawn to the fact that claims relating to inventions in respect of which no international search report has been established will not be subject of an international preliminary examination (Rule 66.1(e) PCT). This is the case irrespective of whether or not the claims are amended following receipt of the search report during any Chapter II procedure.

**INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT**

Information on patent family members

01/03/2005

International application No.

PCT/SE 2004/001861

WO	0198998	A1	27/12/2001	AU	6691601	A	02/01/2002
				AU	6984601	A	02/01/2002
				CA	2413001	A	27/12/2001
				EP	1312000	A	21/05/2003
				JP	2004501455	T	15/01/2004
				WO	0199001	A	27/12/2001

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US	20030172037	A1	11/09/2003	NONE
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US	6223166	B1	24/04/2001	NONE
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